

SION

1	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION	
2 3 4 5 6	WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Chairman JIM IRVIN Commissioner MARC SPITZER Commissioner IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED Aug 3 0 2001 DOCKET NO. W-02524A-01-0641	
7	OF FORT MOJAVE TRIBAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY FILING FOR A LATE PAYMENT) CHARGE ORDER ORDER	
9 10	Open Meeting August 28 and 29, 2001 Phoenix, Arizona	
11	BY THE COMMISSION:	
12	FINDINGS OF FACT	
13	1. On August 6, 2001, the Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority ("Company") filed	
14	an application requesting a new tariff to allow for the assessment of a late payment charge of \$20	
15	per month to all delinquent accounts.	
16	2. Decision No 56512, dated June 9, 1989, authorized the Company's current service	
17	charges tariff.	
18	3. The authorized tariff made no provision for the assessment of a late payment	
19	charge.	
20	4. The Company has informed Staff that approximately 37 percent of its customer	
21	accounts (401 of its 1,088) are typically delinquent.	
22	5. The Company has indicated that the typical monthly water bill is approximately	
23	\$42.	
24	6. Staff recommends that the Company be allowed to assess a late payment charge of	
25	1.5 percent per month of the unpaid monthly balance. A charge at this level is reasonable and	
26	would not impact the Company's rate of return, since the average monthly late payment charge	
27	would cover costs associated with assessing the penalty.	

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7. The late payment charge will be a function of both the outstanding delinquent balance as well as the length of time the account it overdue.

The 1.5 percent per month charge is consistent with other late payment penalties 8. approved by the Commission.

- 9. Staff has recommended approval of the filing.
- 10. Staff has further recommended that the Company file tariff pages consistent with this Order within 15 days of the effective date of this decision.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- The Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority is a public service corporation within the 1. meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- The Commission has jurisdiction over Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority and 2. over the subject matter of the Application.
- 3. Approval of the late payment charge does not constitute a rate increase as contemplated by A.R.S. Section 40-250.
- The Commission having reviewed the tariff and Staff's Memorandum dated August 4. 15, 2001, concludes that Staff's recommendation is reasonable and should be adopted.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the late payment charge of 1.5 percent per month described above be and hereby is approved.

Decision No. <u>6</u>4001

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority shall file tariff pages consistent with the terms of this Order within 15 days from the effective date of this decision.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORE	PORATION COMMISSION
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Mulel CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, of the Secretary Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this day of way, 2001.

DISSENT:

SMO:RDN:bsl/CCK

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SERVICE LIST FOR: Fort Mojave Tribal Utilities Authority DOCKET NO. W-02524A-01-0641

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